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April 23, 2001 LB 536

demand for fewer than five days.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And there are 365 days in a year. Learn what you're talking about, use your brains.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Hartnett, on the motion to bracket LB 536.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Dierks, could I ask you...I think one of the things I did support the bill in the committee and probably will support it. But one of the things that's always bothered me with the bill is the Sutherland plant. I think it started, if I remember right, it was one late night about 4:30 or 5:00 and at that time the former Senator Bernard-Stevens got up and kind of put Sutherland plant into the, whatever the bill we were dealing with that and so forth. The history of that has been kind of shady or spotted or what would you...how would you describe the Sutherland plant? (Laugh)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Dierks, will you yield?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes. I wouldn't describe it as shady. I would describe it as having been a struggling procedure. They had some financial difficulties. I'm not sure if there was a bankruptcy involved, but I think there were some really severe financial problems and the thing has been...the plant has been purchased and they've been struggling to make ends meet. I think that they provide us with an excellent opportunity for the sale of corn and the production of ethanol in the western part of the state. Now as we develop this legislation, Senator Hartnett, Sutherland was always a part. We never considered not having...

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah.

SENATOR DIERKS: ...Sutherland as part of this process because...